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Theodosia Hester to Sarah Bracher, 25 July 1879

Blackwood Park

Blackwood July 25/79

My dear sister

A hasty line must tell you that our dear brother Henry has been dangerously ill for some months. Last Sunday week his end appeared to be at hand, but he has since revived a little, and we entertained some hope of his recovery, but alas! it was only for a short time he is in Perth with his wife and little boy. It is at the request of my dear brother I have written this note to you. My two boys Edwd & Godfrey called to see their uncle the other day. Edwd wrote to me the other day and said 'When uncle was talk[ing] to us I could not help shedding tears when I saw dear old uncle he is nothing but skin and bones'. Dora talks of opening a school in Perth and letting their property to Sutton and McClarty. Godfrey says his dear Uncle seems quite resigned to die he told him that he was not in the least pain but they tell me that it is a stoppage in the bowels but if that is the case I can't think that he would be free from pain the poor dear fellow I wish I could see him it would be a great pleasure to me although at the same time no doubt it would be painful to see the poor dear fellow so altered. It is so dark I can't see to write any more and the mail must be sent at once. I wrote you by the last mail I will send a long letter the next time Give our love to dear Fanny George and his wife also to your dear husband and self from your affect sister

Theodosia